(c) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Government has consistently maintained that the NPT is a discriminatory Treaty which creates a permanent division between the nuclear weapons powers and all other countries.

(b) and (c) In 1988, India tabled the Action Plan for Ushering in a Nuclear Weapon Free and Non-Violent World Order in the Conference on Disarmament as document No. CD|859. However, progress has not been possible because of a lack of consensus on these proposals.

ISI Activities through Nepal

1313. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the activities of ISI which is operating from Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Nepal to check its activities and if so, when and what is the reaction the Government of Nepal in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) The Government of India are aware of the use of Nepalese territory for transit by terrorists, who are suspected of having links with Pakistan Intelligence agencies. This matter has also been raised with the appropriate authorities in Nepal. The Government of Nepal have assured Government of India that they will not permit the use of Nepal's territory for terrorist activities against India. The Government of India welome this assurance and look forward to continued co-operation from the Nepalese authorities.

US Pressure for Signing of NPT

1314. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US Administration has been insisting upon the Government of India to sign and accept the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty; if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a proposal has been recently made by Ms. Robin Raphel, asking India to sign a bilateral agreement with Pakistan in which both parties would undertake not to produce any nuclear fissile material outside the regime on international safeguards; if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether the Delhi Declaration discouraged such piecemeal and discriminatory treaties for their inability to contribute towards making the world nuclear weapons free; and

(d) how the current proposals of the US Administration are viewed in the light of the stands taken by subsequent regimes in India, so far, on nuclear non-proliferation issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) The US Administration has not insisted that India should sign the NPT. However, as a depository State of the Treaty, the US regularly makes statements urging non-signatories to join the NPT. Government has consistently maintained that it is opposed to signing the NPT in its present form.

(b) Yes, Sir. Government has stated that there is no question of India unilaterally stopping the production of fissile material; Government is committed to the conclusion of a Convention on the prohibition of the production of fissile materials for weapons purposes which is multilaterally negotiated, universal, non-discriminatory and effectively verifiable.